

"Spit and Polish" Is Emphasized To Graduating Fliers

"I cannot emphasize 'the spit and polish' discipline too strongly," said Air Vice-Marshal J. A. Sully as he presented wings to a class of graduating airmen at Uplands yesterday. He was introduced by Group Captain A. Raymond, officer commanding, Uplands.

"You are all going to be leaders. With leadership there comes added privileges, but there is also added responsibility to be shouldered. It is in the 'spit polish' discipline which you have received and reacted to with mixed feelings that will aid you in the future. Unless attention is paid to these small details, the efficiency of the whole system lags and suffers," he added.

"This seemingly foolish discipline which brings about so much criticism from all parts of Canada is the main reason we have such a successful air force. People say, 'This is not winning the war. Let's get on with the job.' I say let's fight any such remarks, as this system of discipline has already proven itself."

Fitness Is Vital.

Stressing that physical fitness is vital to their efficiency, Air Vice-Marshal Sully pointed out that

Germany stressed physical fitness in the preparation for this struggle. The fact that the prisoners of war in this country are in perfect physical shape shows that their training was a success.

"You might get by without being fighting fit. It is only in the pinches that it counts. You cannot get and keep fit by wishful thinking. You must get down and get in the pink of condition."

In conclusion, he attacked complacency. "There is a feeling of complacency that has swept across Canada due to the recent victories in North Africa and Sicily. This should be closely watched. We have a long, hard road ahead yet. We have not licked them in their own backyards. It will require the best of what we have to offer in order to bring this war to a successful conclusion. We must fully appreciate the problems lying ahead of us. Goodbye, good luck and good shooting."